

Veteran Affairs (VA) Burial Allowances Process: Ensuring the next of kin (NOK) applies for partial reimbursements for eligible Veteran's burial and funeral costs

Description

VA burial allowances are partial reimbursements of an eligible veteran's burial and funeral costs. When the cause of death is not service related, the reimbursements are generally described as two payments: (1) a burial and funeral expense allowance and (2) a plot or interment allowance. Casualty Assistance Officers will aid the surviving NOK in determining eligibility, amount of entitlement and paperwork required to obtain the benefit.

NOK may be eligible for a VA burial allowance if: the NOK paid for a veteran's burial or funeral, and has not been reimbursed by another government agency or some other source, such as the deceased veteran's employer, and the veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

Regulations and Supporting Resources

[A Survivor's Guide to Benefits – Taking Care of Our Families](#)

[AR 600-8-1, Army Casualty Program](#)

Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Center (CMAOC) – Casualty Assistance Officer (CAO) Training Guide

[U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs \(VA\) Website – Burial and Memorial Benefits](#)

Documents and Forms

DD Form 214, Certification of Release or Discharge From Active Duty

[VA Form 21-530, Application for Burial Benefits](#)

Related Processes

[Casualty Assistance Process](#)

[Conduct Military Funeral Honors \(MFH\) Process](#)

Points of Contact

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